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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of :  
Manabu OUMI et al. :  
Serial No. 09/581,602 : Group Art Unit: 2656  
Filed: August 18, 2000 : Examiner - Aristotelis  
M. Psitos  
For: INFORMATION REPRODUCING :  
APPARATUS AND :  
INFORMATION REPRODUCING :  
METHOD (as amended) : Docket No. S004-4005 (PCT) (RCE)

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER PATENT RULES 97 AND 98**

**S I R:**

Applicants submit this information disclosure statement pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98.

The present application was filed more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. However, as of the date of filing of this statement, neither a final action under 37 CFR §1.113 nor a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 has been mailed in this application. Accordingly, this information disclosure statement is being filed under 37 CFR §1.97(c) and is accompanied by the following 37 CFR §1.97(e) certification:

**MAILING CERTIFICATE ON PAGE 3**

**Rule 97(e) Certification**

Applicants' undersigned attorney, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(e), hereby certifies that each item of information disclosed herein was cited in a Search Report of a foreign Patent Office in applicants' counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

**Information Disclosure Statement**

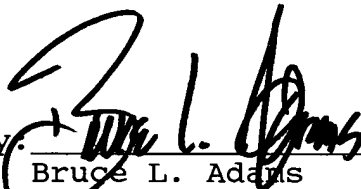
Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98, a list of patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the PTO is provided on annexed Form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each item of information listed on the Form is submitted herewith. Also submitted is a copy of the Search Report which cited each item of information.

As to each item of information, if any, which is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance thereof pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) is given in the Search Report which cited the information.

Consideration of this information disclosure  
statement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAMS & WILKS  
Attorneys for Applicants

By:   
Bruce L. Adams  
Reg. No. 25,386

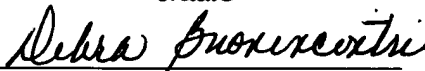
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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Debra Buonincontri

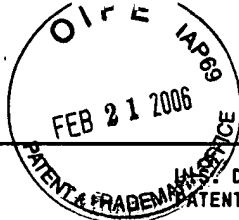
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Signature

February 17, 2006

Date



FORM PTO-1449  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO. S004-4005(PCT)(RCE)	SERIAL NO. 09/581,602
	APPLICANT Manabu OUMI et al.	
	FILING DATE August 18, 2000	GROUP 2656

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		DOCUMENT NO.								DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5	6	0	2	8	2	0		2-11-97	WICKRAMASINGHE et al.	369	126	
	AB													
	AC													
	AD													
	AE													
	AF													
	AG													
	AH													
	AI													
	AJ													
	AK													

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		DOCUMENT NO.								DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
														YES	NO
	AL	0	5	9	4	1	9	3		04-27-94	EUROPE	--	--	n.a.	n.a.
	AM														
	AN														
	AO														
	AP														
	AQ														

**OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	AR	HIGGINS D A ET AL: "Polarization-modulation near-field scanning optical microscopy of mesostructured materials" J. PHYS. CHEM (USA), JOURNAL OF PHYSICAL CHEMISTRY, 8 AUG. 1996, ACS, USA, vol. 100, no. 32, 1996, pages 13794-13803, XP002289473 issn: 0022-3654
	AS	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 1995, no. 10, 30 November 1995 (1995-11-30) publication no. JP 07 192280 A, publication date July 28, 1995
	AT	

EXAMINER: Aristotelis M. Psitos

DATE CONSIDERED:

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.